

REVIVE! NEWSLETTER

OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL FOR VIRGINIA JUNE 2015

REVIVE! Expands Statewide!!!

There is a lot of information to cover in this newsletter, but first let's start with some great news. Thanks to the hard work and patronage of Del. John O'Bannon (R-73), REVIVE! is expanding from a pilot project to a statewide program! And that's just the start of the good news!

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS NOW AVAILABLE FOR TRAINING OF TRAINER (TOT) EVENTS

Are you a professional who is required to take part in continuing education order to obtain or maintain licensure or certification? If so, you can receive two (2) CEUs for attending a TOT. If you would like to receive CEUs for a TOT you've attended in the past, please email Jason at jason.lowe@dbhds.virginia.gov and a certificate will be provided. The option to claim CEUs will be included in the registration form for future TOTs.

FDA NALOXONE HEARINGS AND ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITY

On July 1 and 2, the Food and Drug Administration will be holding hearings to discuss increasing the use of naloxone to reduce opioid overdoses in the United States. Testimony will be provided by academic and government experts and patient advocates. You can register to attend the hearings and to request to provide testimony here: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/05/19/2015-12061/exploring-naloxone-uptake-and-use-public-meeting-request-for-comments>

One day before those FDA meetings, Tuesday, June 30th, the [Harm Reduction Coalition](#) is organizing a naloxone advocacy day on Capitol Hill in Washington DC. This event will help raise awareness with policymakers and legislators about the importance of naloxone and opioid overdose education programs like REVIVE! President Obama's budget will include \$12 million for states to purchase naloxone, so a big turnout that can help policymakers and legislators understand the importance of increasing funding for access to this life-saving medication is a MUST. For more information, please contact Whitney Englander with the Harm Reduction Coalition at 626-808-6923 or Englander@harmreduction.org.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS GOING STATEWIDE!

To get ready for statewide expansion in July, the REVIVE! team is hitting the road, crossing the Commonwealth to train a legion of trainers who will lead Lay Rescuer trainings in their communities starting in July. So far, events have already been confirmed or tentatively scheduled in Fairfax, Harrisonburg, Virginia Beach, and Fredericksburg, with even more communities reaching out to learn how they can have a TOT in their own community. Interested in doing that yourself? Email Jason or visit the website for more information.

REVIVE! HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Trying to get in touch with REVIVE! staff about a training event, medication access, or other issues or questions? You can now send your email to REVIVE@dbhds.virginia.gov. Sending your emails here will mean that they'll be seen and responded to faster!

KEEP DBHDS UPDATED!

Don't forget to follow DBHDS on Facebook and Twitter, where REVIVE! news and information is regularly posted. Please include Jason in any announcements for Lay Rescuer training events so that we can promote those events through our website and social media. You can follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter by clicking on the buttons below.

 Follow Us On [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-Dept-of-Behavioral-Health-and-Developmental-Services-DBHDS/207359189323522) <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-Dept-of-Behavioral-Health-and-Developmental-Services-DBHDS/207359189323522>

 Follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/VirginiaDBHDS) <https://twitter.com/VirginiaDBHDS>

Let's get a REVIVE! hashtag trending! Tag your Facebook and Twitter posts with the hashtag #reviveVA

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2015 WRAP-UP

Del. O'Bannon's bill, House Bill 1458, not only expands REVIVE! statewide but also makes other important changes. The Good Samaritan protections from civil liability in case of adverse consequences or unsuccessful administration of naloxone now extend to anyone who prescribes, dispenses, or administers naloxone. This means that doctors, pharmacists and lay rescuers are all immune from civil liability as the result of providing or using naloxone on a person experiencing an opioid overdose emergency. Additionally, the bill also allows law enforcement officers and firefighters to carry and administer as well. Finally, the bill also allows for naloxone to be distributed through a standing order, meaning that a prescription will no longer be needed to purchase the medication from a pharmacy. Much like you can go to a pharmacy and get a flu shot without a prescription, you will soon be able to do the same with naloxone. Once the protocols that regulate REVIVE! are adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, we will distribute detailed information on the Standing Order.

And Virginia finally has a Safe Reporting law! The law allows an individual to assert an affirmative defense against a specific set of charges, meaning that while a person can be charged and prosecuted for those crimes, that if they meet the criteria set forth in the Code, they can claim the mitigating circumstance of reporting an overdose as a reason why they should not be charged. The law is complicated, and includes a number of conditions that have to be met in order to assert the affirmative defense. More information about the Safe Reporting law will be distributed to trainers in the near future, and will also be posted on our website.

IN THE NEWS

Police Veterans Urge New Approach to War on Drugs - http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/local/police-veterans-urge-new-approach-to-war-on-drugs/article_ebdd2d78-f9bf-11e4-b42a-cf27d9880994.html

Tammie Smith – Richmond Times Dispatch

REPORT: Virginia Teen Overdose Deaths 'Preventable' - <http://www.dailypress.com/health/dp-nws-adolescent-overdose-report-20150514-story.html> Prue Salasky, Daily Press

Serving all your Heroin Needs – http://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/19/opinion/sunday/serving-all-your-heroin-needs.html?_r=2 Sam Quinones, New York Times

A Lifesaving Medication that My Patient Didn't Get in Time - <http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/04/10/396884295/a-life-saving-medication-that-my-patient-didn-t-get>

Leana Wen, National Public Radio

State Questions Rise in Overdose Drug Price - <http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/04/19/healey-investigates-rising-price-for-drug-that-reverses-overdoses/Wav71qeW4gbMAwb9bcx2tI/story.html?event=event25> Brian MacQuarrie, Boston Globe

Opioid Misuse Study Questioned - <http://nationalpainreport.com/opioid-misuse-study-questioned-8825907.html> Ed Coghlan, National Pain Report

Why Death Rates Among White Women are Soaring - <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2015/03/05/the-mysterious-force-behind-rising-death-rates-for-white-women/>

Danielle Paquette, Washington Post

REVIVE! Saving lives, saving futures!